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ACTION SSO-00

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AGRE-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02
	CCO-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DS-00
	EUR-01	FBO-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01	ADS-00
	MFLO-03	MMP-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIS-01
	OPR-01	PC-05	PER-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-03
	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01	FMP-00	RPE-01	PMB-00

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O 111105Z APR 94  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6229  
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E. O. 12356: N. A.  
TAGS: CASC, AEMR, PINS, CG  
SUBJECT: WGRWO1: AMCITS CROSSING FROM RWANDA INTO ZAIRE

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY KINSHASA IS ATTEMPTING MOMENT TO MOMENT TO GET MORE INFORMATION ON ANY AMCITS WHO MAY HAVE CROSSED FROM RWANDA INTO EASTERN ZAIRE, ESPECIALLY AROUND GOMA. THE ISOLATION OF GOMA, ON THE EXTREME EASTERN BORDER, SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES FROM KINSHASA, AS WELL AS THE FAMOUSLY INEPT

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ZAIRIAN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, ARE PROVING TO BE A HANDICAP, BUT SOME INFORMATION IS GETTING TO US. END SUMMARY.

2. AS OF 1000 LOCAL TIME, APRIL 11 (0500 WASHINGTON TIME), WE HAVE HEARD FROM THE LOCAL BELGIAN EMBASSY, WHICH SENT CONSULAR REPRESENTATION TO GOMA, THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF THREE AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO CROSSED INTO GOMA, PROBABLY YESTERDAY (APRIL 10). THE AMERICANS NAMED IN A NOTE TO US WERE AMY BEVIS (SUBSEQUENTLY CORRECTED TO AMY DAVIS, RPT, DAVIS), ESTHER M. KILE, AND KATHLEEN GLANCEY. NO FURTHER IDENTIFIERS WERE GIVEN A LATER CALL SAID 13 AMERICANS HAD CROSSED LAST NIGHT, BUT

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WITHOUT MORE SPECIFICS. CONOFF IS ATTEMPTING TO REACH FRENCH AND BELGIAN PERSONNEL IN GOMA VIA CELLULAR PHONE, BUT THIS HAS NOT YET BEEN FRUITFUL.

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3. DAO TRAFFIC AND SOME OF THE REPORTING FROM EMBASSY BUJUMBURA HAS MENTIONED 20-30 AMCITS CONNECTED TO THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH AND SITUATED IN GISENYI OR MUDENDE. AN ADVENTIST MISSIONARY HERE IN KINSHASA SAYS THESE PEOPLE (NUMBERS UNSPECIFIED, BUT SHE BELIEVES THE ENTIRE GROUP HAVE REACHED GOMA. ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ADVENTIST MISSIONS FOR 32 COUNTRIES IN WHAT SHE CALLED THE "AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN AREA" CAME TO KINSHASA FROM ABIDJAN YESTERDAY AND HAS CONTINUED ON TO GOMA WITH MONEY OR PLANE TICKETS FOR THESE PEOPLE. SHE WAS UNABLE TO BE SPECIFIC ABOUT TRAVEL PLANS, BUT DID SAY SHE WOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH CONOFF UPON THE RETURN OF THE MISSION PRESIDENT TO KINSHASA LATER THIS WEEK.

4. FURTHER COMPLICATING THE PICTURE IS THE FACT THAT OUR MOST RELIABLE CONTACTS IN THE GOMA AREA ARE MISSIONARIES WHO HAVE  
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GONE EN MASSE TO A FAMILY RETREAT IN RETHY, SOME DISTANCE FARTHER NORTH, AND ARE NOT FOR THE MOMENT IN REGULAR COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR KINSHASA-BASED SUPPLIER, THE MISSIONARY AIRLIFT FELLOWSHIP. NONETHELESS, LOCAL DIRECTOR OF THE MAF IS CONFIDENT THAT ZAIRIAN PERSONNEL AT THE GOMA BASE WOULD HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HIM HAD AMERICANS BEEN STREAMING THROUGH GOMA IN SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS. HE ALSO EXPECTS TO SPEAK WITH SEVERAL RETURNING PILOTS LATER TODAY TO GET THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN GOMA.

5. WE HAVE AS YET BEEN UNABLE TO GET ANY FIRM INFORMATION AT ALL FROM THE FRENCH EMBASSY HERE. THEY DO HAVE A CONSULAR AGENT IN GOMA, AND CAN BE EXPECTED KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE SITUATION, BUT AS YET HAVE NOT SHARED IT WITH US. MORE IS POSSIBLE A BIT LATER IN THE DAY.

6. WE WILL OF COURSE UPDATE OUR INFORMATION AS FEASIBLE.

7. WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE THAT SEVERAL HUNDRED RWANDAN REFUGEES ALSO CROSSED INTO ZAIRE OVER THE WEEKEND, ALTHOUGH MOST SECTORS OF THE BORDER ARE OFFICIALLY CLOSED.

8. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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